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500.40786CX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T. ARAKI et al.
Serial No.: 10/041,596
Filed: January 10, 2002
For: ITEM ALLOCATION METHOD, SYSTEM AND PROGRAM FOR
WORKFLOW SYSTEM
Group: 3623
Examiner: C. Tarae

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 19, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 27, 2006, setting a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 27, 2006, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks are included following the amendments.